Dear Highland Park Families:

A huge thank-you to our Fall Festival chairs and volunteers for organizing such an amazing event. It was great to see so many of our families at the festival playing the games, blending smoothies on the bike, having their nails done and their faces painted, and having a wonderful time.

It’s my pleasure to introduce Annie Schoeben, our new physical education teacher. Annie is a recent graduate of St. Kate’s University and brings a ton of positive energy to the gym. Please stop by during conferences and meet our fabulous new teacher.

Last year, Mr. Seth, our multi-talented art teacher, sewed over 400 breakfast bags so that we would eliminate the waste of plastic bags at breakfast. Not only did we use over 400 plastic bags for students for breakfast every morning, but at least double that would fall on the floor and be thrown away as well. His idea was so well-received, not just by us, but by the district as well, that there is now a district-wide breakfast bag recycle program going into effect on Monday, November 18. We will be the first school in the district to pilot the program. Nutrition Services will drop off one week’s worth of recyclable bags every week and they will clean them and return another batch each week. Our staff was concerned about the amount of water this would require on a daily basis, and I discussed this concern with nutrition services. They responded by saying they understand our concern, and explained that we are the company’s first customer, and the agreement assigns all liability to them. The company wants to clean the bags daily, send them to third party for testing, and then decide whether or not it’s safe to use them for extended periods of time. They understand the concerns around water and footprint, but they are more concerned they could make a child sick. They have come up with the idea that they will only wash soiled/dirty bags. They will use a special cleaner to wipe out the others. Our district throws away 25 tons of plastic bags every year, along with two tons of cardboard the bags come in. Our actions were the catalyst for starting this program and we’re grateful that we are part of the solution of keeping this kind of waste from the landfills.

Conferences are just around the corner. Please make it a priority to meet with all of your child’s teachers, including specialists. Conferences are scheduled from 4:40 -7:10 PM on Tuesday, November 12 and Thursday, November 14, and from 7:30-11:30 AM on Friday, November 15. PreK conferences are also held during the day on Thursday, November 14. The Scholastic Book Fair will open during conferences so that you can get a head start on your holiday shopping.

Have a happy Thanksgiving with family and friends!

Sincerely,

Nancy Flynn
Principal
Family Involvement News

We’re thrilled that so many HPE families were able to join us for the Fall Festival in October. We have additional activities planned at HPE this month. Please save the dates and consider participating in these important family involvement opportunities.

**Title 1 Meeting** - Thursday, November 7 from 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. in Room 1104

Attend this meeting to learn more about the Title 1 program and how these funds are used to support student achievement at HPE.

**PTA Meeting** - Thursday, November 7 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in Room 1104

Free childcare is available. In addition to regular agenda items, the meeting will include a Fall Review of HPE’s 2018-19 SCIP (School Continuous Improvement Plan). HPE values and needs your input and ideas on this school plan so please join us for this important meeting.

**Parent Teacher Conferences** - November 12, 14 and 15

Conferences are a great opportunity to form a partnership with your child’s teacher to work together to ensure your student is a successful learner. This is also an excellent time to ask questions about learning expectations, find out more about how your child is progressing, and develop goals and a plan for working towards achieving those goals. Highland Park Elementary encourages student-led conferences, so please plan on bringing your child with you to their conference.

Other Important Information:

**Fall Picture Retake Day** was cancelled for Thursday, November 7 and rescheduled for Thursday, November 21st.

- For students who missed the October picture day: retake picture order forms are available in the main office. You can also order online at mylifetouch.com using the following Picture Day ID: EVTP6NMWN
- For students who were photographed in October: students should bring their original picture package with them to give to the photographer on retake day.

Kara Kipfmueller, Parent Liaison
kara.kipfmueller@spps.org

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**Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution**

**Tuesday, November 26, 5-6 PM**

**The Salvation Army, 401 7th Street W, St. Paul, MN 55102**

Drive up or walk in to receive your box of Thanksgiving meal supplies (turkey, pie, fixings) delivered by the Minnesota Vikings Offensive Line.

Preregistration required. Call Kristie at 651-602-3042 or email Kristie.Mandel@us.SalvationArmy.org

*Saint Paul Public Schools is not sponsoring, endjouring, or recommending the activities announced in this flyer and no child will be turned away due to inability to pay.*
Dear Families,

This year, I wanted to do something different and hopefully start up a new tradition to invite families from different cultures into my classroom to share about your culture and how you learned English. My hope is that by doing this, students will be able to make a connection on how to learn Chinese and take away some skills that are shared. I would like to invite families into the classroom every Friday. Currently, this time has already been set aside to look at culture more in depth in the classroom. Students use this time to ask more questions about Chinese language or research more about the Chinese culture. I look forward to seeing you at conferences and sharing more with you about what I would like to do.

Joanne Cellura, Chinese World Language Specialist

WELCOME OUR NEW PHY. ED. TEACHER!

Hello!

My name is Annie Schoeben. I am a first year Physical Education teacher. This is my first year at Highland Park and I love it so far! I graduated from St. Catherine’s University with majors in Exercise and Sports Science and Teaching K-12 and a minor in coaching. I am looking forward to teaching and getting to know all of the students at this school!

Highland Park Elementary Action Fundraiser partnering with We Help Two Organization

Student Council is leading a school-wide action. They are concerned about homeless people in our community that are in need of warm socks for our Minnesota winters. We have partnered with We Help Two, an organization that comes alongside organizations to help them reach their fundraising goals and enables them to help the most overlooked population in their communities at the same time. [https://www.wehelptwo.com/](https://www.wehelptwo.com/)

Student council will be collecting warm socks of all sizes. There’re several ways for you to donate:

- You can buy your own socks
- You can donate money
- You can buy socks through We Help Two Organization

If you choose to purchase socks from the We Help Two Organization, you can keep the socks for yourself and part of the proceeds goes towards the shelter we choose. The other part, will help fund technology related items for our school. You can also choose to donate the socks directly to Student Council. We will have the socks available at conferences.

More information will come out in a flier on November 7th.

Joanne Cellura
PYP Chinese World Language Specialist
Highland Park Elementary
School: 651-293-8770
Email: joanne.cellura@spps.org
HPE PYP News
PYP Coordinator-Mrs. Strecker

Your child has been working with the Learner Profile for two months now. With Thanksgiving this month, I thought it would be great for us to stop and think about how we are thankful for our students as it relates to their learning and the profile. I have attached the definitions for the learner profile. I would appreciate it if you would spend a moment talking about the Learner Profile with your child/children. I would love if you would take a moment to fill out the attached form and return it to school. I will post them for all to admire the great attributes that our HPE students encompass.

IB Learner Profile

- **Inquirers:** We are curious. We ask questions and search for information. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm.
- **Thinkers:** We use creative thinking skills to better understand and take responsible action on difficult problems. We take initiative and make good choices.
- **Communicators:** We express ourselves confidently and creatively. We listen carefully to the ideas of others.
- **Risk-Takers:** We are courageous and determined. We work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and strategies.
- **Knowledgeable:** We develop and use our understandings by exploring a variety of subjects. We explore local and global issues and ideas.
- **Principled:** We act with integrity and honesty. We have a strong sense of fairness and justice and respect others. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.
- **Caring:** We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.
- **Open-Minded:** We appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We have tolerance. We consider other points of view and are willing to grow from the experience.
- **Balanced:** We strive to develop healthy minds and bodies. We understand the importance of our relationships with other people and the world.
- **Reflective:** We think about the world and our own ideas and experiences. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to learn and grow.

Example: I am thankful for Madison
- being a thinker
- because she always helps her brother with his homework.

I am thankful for George
- being principled
- when he gets ready for bed without mom and dad telling him to.

HPE Great Learners!

I am thankful for ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Student’s Name

Being ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Learner Profile Attribute

Because or when ____________________________________________________________________________________________